

DCI/RM 79-1111
2 March 1979

STAT

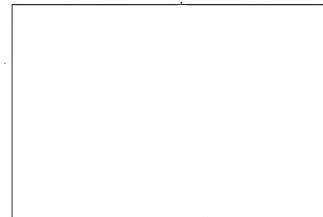
MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]
Legislative Division, OLC

FROM: [REDACTED]
Director, Community Legislative & Liaison Office

SUBJECT: Legislative Government Accountability Act of 1979

The exemption of national foreign intelligence activities from HR 755, the Government Accountability Act of 1979, appears adequate. However, it might be made more specific by substituting "...National Foreign Intelligence Program (NFIP)" for "national foreign intelligence activities" in Section 3(a)(1).

STAT



Distribution: (DCI/RM 79-1111)

1 Addressee
1 CLLO Chrono.
1 IR&DC Sub
1 IR&DC Chrono

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STAFF

27 February 1979

STAT

NOTE FOR:

Jim:

Regarding the language in Section 3 (a)(1),
be more specific. In this regard, I would sub-
stitute "but shall not include any part of the
National Foreign Intelligence Program (NFIP)".

STAT

ACTION

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STAFF

22 February 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

FROM: [redacted]

D/CLLO

SUBJECT: Government Accountability
Act of 1979

Please review the attached copy of H.R. 755 and provide any comments you may have by c.o.b. 28 February. A consolidated RMS response will be prepared in CLLO. Responses should be addressed to the CLLO action officer, [redacted] Negative responses are requested.

Distribution:

D/PGO

D/PBO

D/PAOL

D/IRO

D/AS

Jim:
No basis for comments
(and no time either).

ACTION

STAT

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STAFF

22 February 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

FROM: [REDACTED]

D/CLLO

SUBJECT: Government Accountability
Act of 1979

Please review the attached copy of H.R. 755 and provide any comments you may have by c.o.b. 28 February. A consolidated RMS response will be prepared in CLLO. Responses should be addressed to the CLLO action officer, [REDACTED] Negative responses are requested.

Distribution:

D/PGO
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ACTION

OLC 79-0498

12 February 1979

STAT
MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted]
Office of General Counsel

STAT
[redacted]
Office of Inspector General

STAT
[redacted]
Resource Management Staff

STAT FROM : [redacted]
Chief, Legislation Division/OLC

SUBJECT : Legislation: Government Accountability Act of 1979

1. On 15 January 1979, Representative Solomon introduced H.R. 755, the Government Accountability Act of 1979, it would give the Director of OMB the authority to recommend the termination of those federal programs he finds infective. It would also require the President every two years to submit to Congress a report on the management on the Executive Branch.

2. Under the terms of the bill, programs that concern national foreign intelligence activities are exempt. Please review the legislation and advise this office whether this national security exemption is adequate for our purposes. Comments should be forwarded to [redacted] of my staff.

STAT

Distribution:

1 - OGC [redacted]
1 - IG [redacted]
1 - RMS [redacted]
1 - OLC Subject
1 - OLC Chrono

OLC:YTF:mao (12 Feb 79)

96TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 755

To require biennial reports to Congress on the effectiveness of Government programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 15, 1979

Mr. SOLOMON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Operations

A BILL

To require biennial reports to Congress on the effectiveness of Government programs, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
2 That this Act may be cited as the "Government Account-
3 ability Act of 1979".

5 SEC. 2. (a) The Congress finds that—

6 (1) the public confidence in the ability of the Con-
7 gress and the executive branch to manage the Federal
8 Government effectively has declined;

9 (2) the Federal Government is not as accountable
10 as it should be in serving the public interest;

1 (3) the Federal Government, unlike private enter-
2 prise, has no built-in mechanism for calling attention to
3 and eliminating programs that are not proving to be
4 cost effective;

5 (4) the executive branch, the Congress, and the
6 public do not possess adequate information on the rela-
7 tive effectiveness of Federal programs;

8 (5) the taxpaying public is properly demanding
9 more accountability for the expenditure of tax revenues
10 and demanding that the public expenditures not grow
11 any larger with respect to the economy as a whole;

12 (6) the further uncontrolled growth of Govern-
13 ment will pose a threat to our democratic society and
14 economy;

15 (7) the Federal Government cannot be compe-
16 tently managed and new programs for future needs can-
17 not be implemented unless workable management tech-
18 niques are developed to assess program effectiveness;
19 and

20 (8) such limitations demand that all Federal pro-
21 grams should be evaluated using traditional manage-
22 ment standards and that ineffective programs should be
23 strengthened to better serve the public or eliminated.

24 (b) The purposes of this Act are to—

- 1 (1) provide for a far more professional and efficient
2 management of the Federal Government;
- 3 (2) identify those programs which are ineffective
4 and determine the cause of their ineffectiveness;
- 5 (3) encourage the development of uniform methods
6 for evaluating Federal programs; and
- 7 (4) provide Congress additional tools needed to
8 identify ineffective Federal programs.

9 SEC. 3. (a) For the purposes of this Act—

10 (1) The term "program" means an organized set
11 of activities carried out pursuant to separate statutory
12 authorization or for which Federal expenditures are
13 specifically allocated by the Federal Government, and
14 which can be evaluated in terms of relative effectiveness
15 in pursuing a governmental goal, but shall not include
16 national foreign intelligence activities.

17 (2) The term "executive department" shall have
18 the meaning given it in section 101 of title 5, United
19 States Code.

20 (3) The term "independent establishment" shall
21 have the meaning given it in section 104 of title 5,
22 United States Code, except that such term includes the
23 United States Postal Service and the Postal Rate Com-
24 mission but does not include the General Accounting
25 Office or the independent regulatory agencies.

1 SEC. 4. (a) At the beginning of the second session of
2 the Ninety-sixth Congress and every two years thereafter
3 the President shall submit to the Congress a report on the
4 management of the executive branch (hereinafter called the
5 Management Report). The Management Report shall be
6 submitted on the same day as the budget is transmitted to
7 the Congress under section 201 of the Budget and Account-
8 ing Act, 1921.

9 (b) It is the intent of Congress that the President shall
10 be granted full discretion in the design of the Management
11 Report provided that:

12 (1) Programs shall be—

13 (i) designated within each executive depart-
14 ment and within each independent establishment,
15 according to their relative effectiveness, as "excel-
16 lent", "adequate", or "unsatisfactory", and

17 (ii) ranked as to their effectiveness relative to
18 all other programs within each category in that
19 executive department or within that independent
20 establishment.

21 (2) The designation and ranking of programs as to
22 relative effectiveness shall be determined by the degree
23 to which each program's statutory objective is being met,
24 which shall be based on—

25 (i) the clarity of the statutory design and objective

1 (ii) the overall design of the program as effectuated
2 by the responsible executive department or independent
3 establishment, and

4 (iii) the overall quality of the management of the
5 program by the responsible executive department or
6 independent establishment.

7 (c) The Management Report shall include the Presi-
8 dent's reasons for the program designations and rankings
9 he has made.

10 (d) The Management Report shall include a list of those
11 programs or areas the President recommends for administra-
12 tive or congressional improvement during that Congress.

13 (e) The Management Report shall include the report of
14 the Director of the Office of Management and Budget re-
15 quired under Section 5 of the Act, including the President's
16 recommendations and proposed actions pursuant to it.

17 SEC. 5. (a) The Director of the Office of Management
18 and Budget (hereinafter called the Director) shall provide
19 an evaluative report on Federal programs to the President
20 which shall be forwarded to the Congress by the President
21 with his Management Report.

22 (b) In his report the Director shall identify any pro-
23 grams, including those carried out by the independent regu-
24 latory agencies, that are contradictory to other Federal pro-
25 grams and recommend corrective legislation. The Director

1 shall also recommend the termination or modification of any
2 programs whose relative ineffectiveness no longer justifies
3 continued Federal expenditures or only justifies a lower level
4 of Federal expenditures.

5 SEC. 6. The President may from time to time submit to
6 the Congress reports supplementary to the Management Re-
7 port, each of which shall include such supplementary or re-
8 vised recommendations as the President may deem necessary
9 or desirable to achieve the purposes of this Act. The Director
10 may, from time to time, submit to the President reports
11 supplementary to the report required by section 5.